

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

**Call to Order:** By **VICE CHAIRMAN SYLVIA BOOKOUT-REINICKE**, on  
February 3, 2003 at 3 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Karl Waitschies, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Sylvia Bookout-Reinicke, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Dave Gallik, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Rep. Bob Bergren (D)  
Rep. Ronald Devlin (R)  
Rep. George Golie (D)  
Rep. Jim Keane (D)  
Rep. Bernie Olson (R)  
Rep. Allen Rome (R)  
Rep. Frank Smith (D)  
Rep. Donald Steinbeisser (R)  
Rep. Bill Wilson (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Leanne Kurtz, Legislative Branch  
Pati O'Reilly, Committee Secretary

**Please Note.** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB458, 1/30/2003; HB 189, 1/30/2003  
Executive Action: HB 301; HB 369; HB 385; HB 226

**HEARING ON HB 458**

**Sponsor:** REPRESENTATIVE MUSGROVE, HD 91

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

REPRESENTATIVE MUSGROVE said, "This is a constituent bill dealing with vanity license plates for the handicapped persons. A decal would have to be placed on the plate."

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 3.4}*

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

Dean Roberts, Montana Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice, said that the Department is not opposed to this bill but placing a decal on the vanity plates can cause problems. Putting the disabled parking symbol on a vanity plate would require the decal to meet certain federal specifications. The federal mandated decal is too large to place on a Montana vanity plate.

**EXHIBIT**(trh23a01)

**EXHIBIT**(trh23a02)

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 3.4 - 13.6}*

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

REPRESENTATIVES DEVLIN, KEANE, and BERGREN questioned Dean Roberts regarding the cost, federal sanctions and any solutions the Department may have to offer.

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 13.6 - 19.8}*

**Closing by Sponsor:**

REPRESENTATIVE MUSGROVE, closed by asking the committee to make any amendments or suggestions that would make this a workable bill and allow the handicapped to have vanity plates.

*{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 19.8 - 21.8}*

**HEARING ON HB 189**

**Sponsor:** REPRESENTATIVE JEFF PATTISON, HD 95

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

**REPRESENTATIVE PATTISON** said HB 189 has been heard previously in this committee with no executive action taken. The bill needs some corrections and amendments to make it workable and less confusing. This bill could be combined with bill if the amendments are made."

***{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 21.8 - 22.3}***

**Proponents' Testimony:**

**Jim Currie, Montana Department of Transportation,** said that the Department supports this bill, however if this bill is amended **REPRESENTATIVE FACEY** has agreed to withdraw HB 301.

***{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 22.3 - 28.3}***

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

**REPRESENTATIVES DEVLIN, BALLYEAT, SMITH and WAITSCHIES** questioned **REPRESENTATIVE PATTISON**. The questions addressed several parts of the bill and solutions to correct the problems, such as lamps, reflectors and repetitive requirements.

***{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 28.3 - 30}***

***{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 19.9}***

**REPRESENTATIVE WAITSCHIES** entered the room during the question and answers.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

**REPRESENTATIVE PATTISON** thanked the committee for their consideration and stated he was willing to look at any amendments or changes that would make this bill pass.

***{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 19.9 - 21.9}***

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 301

Motion/Vote: REPRESENTATIVE GALLIK moved that HB 301 BE TABLED.  
Motion carried unanimously.

*{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 21.9 - 22.9}*

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 369

Motion: REPRESENTATIVE BOOKOUT-REINICKE moved that HB 369 DO PASS.

Motion/Vote: REPRESENTATIVE DEVLIN moved that HB 369 BE AMENDED.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: REPRESENTATIVE DEVLIN moved that HB 369 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried 11-2 with REPS. BALYEAT and OLSON voting no.

*{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 22.9 - 30}*

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 2.1}*

Motion/Vote: REPRESENTATIVE KEANE moved that HB 385 DO PASS.  
Motion carried 12-0. REPRESENTATIVE BALYEAT did not vote.

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 2.1 - 4.4}*

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 226

Motion: REPRESENTATIVE BOOKOUT-REINICKE moved that HB 226 DO PASS.

Motion/Vote: REPRESENTATIVE DEVLIN moved that HB 226 BE AMENDED.  
Motion carried 8-4 with REPS. BOOKOUT-REINICKE, GOLIE, WAITSCHIES, and WILSON voting no. REPRESENTATIVE BALYEAT did not vote.

**EXHIBIT**(trh23a03)

Motion/Vote: REP. DEVLIN moved that HB 226 DO PASS AS AMENDED.  
Motion carried 10-2 with REPS. ROME and STEINBEISSER voting no.  
REP. BALYEAT did not vote.

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 4.4 - 10.1}*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:15 P.M.

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REP. KARL WAITSCHIES, Chairman

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PATI O'REILLY, Secretary

KW/PO

**EXHIBIT** (trh23aad)